Intelligence Agency

H. F. Arthur Schoenfeld.

Department of State Washington

In reply refer to Le/A

October 24, 1947

25X1A9a

My dear Mr. Schoenfeld:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of October 1, 1947, in which you ask the following question:

"Am I, as a retired Officer of the American Foreign Service who is entitled to receive an annuity following my retirement from the Foreign Service under the provisions of Section 636 of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, also entitled to receive compensation, either as salary or as per diem or otherwise, from the United States Government upon my employment by the Government in a capacity other than that of a Foreign Service Officer on active duty?"

In the case of William W. Brunswick v. The United States (90 Ct. Cls. 285) decided January 8, 1940, the court held that a Foreign Service Officer retired for disability and receiving an annuity may be employed by the Executive branck of the Government and receive salary for such employment simultaneously with the receipt of the annuity. Although the Comptroller General did not appeal the Brunswick case it has adopted the position that this decision is binding only in this particular case, and is not controlling in other cases of retirement on an annuity. Acting in accordance with this theory of law, the Comptroller General has recently ordered the suspension of annuities of all retired Foreign Service Officers who are presently employed by the Government.

The Department of State is, of course, bound to comply with the Comptroller General's interpretation of the law.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State;

Belton O. Bryan Assistant Legal Adviser

The Honorable
H. F. Arthur Schoenfeld,
care of Mail Room,
Department of State.

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